

REGARDING POOL & SPA ENCLOSURE/SPECIFIC CODE REQUIREMENTS:

Design and erection of the pool (defined as a structure that contains water over 24 inches / 610 mm deep) enclosure whether by the homebuilder, pool contractor, homeowner or independent fencing contractor shall be in strict accordance with the adopted version of the International Building Code with Amendments. Construction of and direction of the gate including latch location and height along with door alarm option *must* be in conformance of code. Separation fencing may be required when automatic gates are present.

- A). Temporary fencing (if needed) must be placed before construction begins and remain standing until the Pre-Plaster Inspection at which time the permanent fence is to be erected.
- B). **Gates.** All gates shall be equipped to accommodate a locking device. All pedestrian yard gates must have self-closing, self-latching gates and open away from the pool. Non-pedestrian yard gates, maximum of one, shall have a self-latching device and remain locked at all times when the pool area is not in use. Where the release mechanism of the self-latching device is located less than 54 inches (1372 mm) from the bottom of the gate, the release mechanism shall be located on the pool side of the gate at least 3 inches (76 mm) below the top of the gate, and the gate and barrier shall have no opening greater than 0.5 inch (12.7 mm) within 18 inches (457 mm) of the release mechanism.
- C). **Barrier height.** Barrier (fence) height shall be a minimum of 48" measured on the side of the barrier that faces away from the swimming pool. Barrier (fence) height shall be a maximum of 96" measured from inside yard at grade. The maximum vertical clearance between grade and the bottom of the barrier shall be 2 inches (51 mm).
- D). **Closely spaced horizontal members.** For barriers in which the horizontal members of the fence are spaced less than 45" apart, the horizontal members shall be placed on the pool side of the barrier. (Pickets shall be located on the outside of the fence with the posts being on the inside). Spacing between vertical members shall not exceed 1.75 inches (44 mm) in width. Should the pickets be located on the inside of the fence, measures shall be taken to render the fence non-climbable. For example, anti-climb bars or angled horizontal members shall be used to achieve this purpose. Where there are cutouts within vertical members, spacing within the cutouts shall not exceed 1.75 inches (44 mm) in width.
- E). **Widely spaced horizontal members.** For barriers in which horizontal members of the fence are spaced greater than 45" apart, the vertical member spacing shall not allow a four inch (4") diameter sphere to pass between pickets. Where there are decorative cutouts within vertical members, spacing within the cutouts shall not exceed 1.75 inches (44 mm) in width.
- F). **Diagonal members.** Where the barrier is composed of diagonal members, the maximum opening formed by the diagonal members shall be no more than 1.75 inches (44 mm).
- G). **Chain link dimension.** Maximum mesh size for chain link fences shall be a 2.25 inch square (57 mm square) unless the fence is provided with slats fastened at the top or the bottom which reduce openings to no more than 1.75 inches (44 mm).

- H). A separation fence meeting the requirements of the code under Section 3109 may be provided. Should a dwelling unit be used as a barrier, please see Section 3109.4.1.8 as noted below:

A Certification of Pool Protection Device Installation form is required at the Pre-Plaster inspection designating the election of one of the below. The form may be obtained from our office, shall be filled out completely, including notarized signatures of all homeowners, and the original is to be put on the job at Pre-Plaster Inspection for the Building Inspector to obtain.

1. Doors with direct access to the pool through that wall shall be equipped with an alarm which produces an audible warning when the door and its screen are opened. The alarm shall sound continuously for a minimum of 30 seconds immediately after the door is opened and be capable of being heard throughout the house during normal household activities. The alarm shall be equipped with a manual means to temporarily deactivate the alarm for a single opening. Such deactivation shall last no more than 15 seconds. The deactivation switch shall be located at least 54 inches above the threshold of the door.
 2. The pool can be equipped with a power safety cover that complies with ASTM F 1346.
 3. Other means of protection, such as self-closing doors with self-latching devices installed at 54" above the threshold of the door, which are approved by the administrative authority, shall be accepted so long as the degree of protection afforded is not less than the protection afforded by this Section.
- I). **Pool structure as barrier.** Where an aboveground pool structure is used as a barrier or where the barrier is mounted on top of the pool structure, and the means of access is a ladder or steps, then the ladder or steps either shall be capable of being secured, locked or removed to prevent access, or the ladder or steps shall be surrounded by a barrier which meets the requirements of Sections 3109.4.1.1 through 3109.4.1.8. When the ladder or steps are secured, locked or removed, any opening created shall not allow the passage of a 4 inch (102 mm) diameter sphere.

- J). **Indoor swimming pools.** Walls surrounding indoor swimming pools shall not be required to comply with Section 3109.4.1.8.
- K). Entrapment Avoidance.